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*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Geographic Research  
 VIA : Acting Chief, Geography Division  
 FROM : Chief, Staff on Soviet Mapping Intelligence

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DATE: 3 September 1953

SUBJECT: Report on Conferences at [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] Relative to Contract (RD) XG-1049

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1. Purpose

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A detailed examination was undertaken with [REDACTED] of the status of work on the project, an analysis of problems in the production of reports, and the measures required to resolve them for the most fruitful completion of the project.

2. Activities

a. The status of progress in the preparation of five new major reports, the revision of two provisional reports, the preparation of five incidental technical reports, and a technical glossary of Russian geodetic, photogrammetric and electronic terms was examined in detail.

b. Other activities included obtaining a substantive and physical inventory of reference files, translations, and abstracts developed in the course of the project (Annex I); and an examination of the current status and future prospects of the [REDACTED]

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3. Findings

a. Progress in report production although substantial was not considered to be entirely adequate for its satisfactory completion by 30 September 1953, unless several problems were resolved. Work was retarded by the decline in morale and the professional and administrative confusion that arose from the resignation of [REDACTED]

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The expeditious assignment of technical report preparation was unduly delayed, and substantial segments of report production were delayed because of the shortage of typing personnel.

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25X1A. The current status and future prospects of [REDACTED] are inextricably interwoven with that of [REDACTED] is about to lose the bulk of its personnel with Russian area and language specialization. Its sole personnel resource will be foreign nationals whose tenure is impermanent, since some are here on visitors visas; if [REDACTED] departs there is no one of sufficient stature who can replace him either in [REDACTED]

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The prospects of the [REDACTED] are grim, and their dissolution will represent a significant loss to U. S. scientific and research capabilities in the fields of geodesy.

4. Action Taken  
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25X1A a. [REDACTED] was urged to obtain the services of [REDACTED] to undertake an evaluation of Soviet primary leveling. [REDACTED] agreed to allow me to obtain the assistance of [REDACTED] to prepare a comparative evaluation of Soviet and U. S. training and Soviet-English language textbooks on higher geodesy, for the revision of the report on Soviet education in geodesy.

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b. A summary of progress and status of production was prepared (see Annex II) and remaining tasks outlined. This clarified the apportionment of the remaining workload to a point that promises a satisfactory completion of work by 30 September 1953. There are, however, two exceptions in which the work may remain undone. The first, and most important, is that no adequate estimate will be possible of the importance of the role of "poligonometry" in advancing the progress of Soviet surveying and mapping. American practices reject the "subtended traverse" or open traverses as inadequate for geodetic surveying; project information on the extent of poligonometry in the USSR is insufficient to permit a quantitative estimate of its significance. The second unfinished item consists of a number of detailed technical translations, abstracts, reports and summaries prepared by Russian language specialists whose English is inadequate. These materials will be available as unedited reference items for working-level personnel.

c. In order to cut down the mass of technical detail in the reports, I requested that emphasis be laid on qualitative and quantitative significance as it bears on Soviet capabilities. Mass technical details will be referenced in an annotated bibliography at the end of each topical section.

d. Instructions again were repeated for the evaluation of information and the adequacy of data, and gaps in intelligence.

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e. The CIA [REDACTED] inventory lists of books were reconciled.

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5. Unfinished Business

a. [REDACTED] feel a moral obligation to complete the project work to their satisfaction over and beyond the minima required under the contract.

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b. [REDACTED] will concentrate on bringing up his provisional report on "Geodetic Gravimetry in the USSR" to incorporate much new data and new advancements in Soviet gravimetry. He will need to retain the safe for an extended period beyond the termination of the contract. [REDACTED] insists on editing the remaining major technical summaries and translations that will not be done before 30 September, and elaborating the report on Soviet cartography. This will be facilitated by [REDACTED] employment as a part-time consultant to [REDACTED]. In this connection [REDACTED] requested the transmittal of an extra set of cards which will be of value to [REDACTED] project as well as in the continuation of her work on our project. I admired their public spirit and zeal, but I reminded them that because of legal technicalities we would insist on the completion of work by 30 September.

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6. Other Miscellaneous Information

a. There has been a pronounced shift in gravimetric research to Leningrad. A new theory of reduction has been proposed and its application tested in field experiments. Results are not yet available.

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b. [REDACTED] interest in a comprehensive, current catalog of Soviet research institutes and laboratories was heightened on learning [REDACTED] that no systematic register of institutes exists. [REDACTED] feels that the massiveness and complexity of the problem deserves at least a similar program to the Biographic and Industrial Register technique. Much information exists but it remains unsystematic and uncoordinated.

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c. According to [REDACTED] there were "millions" of Russian books captured and stored at the University in Munich, where plans were being formulated to organize [REDACTED] for Russian studies.

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d. [REDACTED] has indicated that the Russians will appear at the Xth General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics at Rome, Italy, during the latter half of September, 1954. The reasons and significance of the appearance of the Russians can only be properly studied by the presence of [REDACTED] who knows some of the Russians expected to attend.

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2 enclosures:

1 - Annex I

1 - Annex II

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ORR:D/GG:[REDACTED] sar

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1 - GG/X 1 - chrono

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Approved For Release 1999/09/08 : CIA-RDP79-01096A000100050002-8 *annex 1*

~~Annex II~~

Summary of Progress and Status of Production.  
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Project (RD) XG-1049, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] as of 18 August 1953.

I. Major Project reports

A. Geodesy report

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A collection of papers on basic topics concerning the Soviet status and capabilities on higher geodesy.

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Status: About 3/4 completed

Requires: [REDACTED] to prepare introduction and conclusions; editing [REDACTED] and retyping.

B. Photogrammetry report 25X1A

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Status: Report of evaluation of methods and procedures is being prepared by [REDACTED] based on a dozen reports and abstracts from Soviet sources. He will spend about 3 days early in September conferring with [REDACTED] to integrate the several parts into a unified paper.

Requires: Final draft on organization, and on status of work of Soviet photogrammetry, to be prepared by [REDACTED]

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C. Cartography

Status: Selected translations and abstracts being analyzed by [REDACTED] 25X1A

Requires: Appraisal of achievements and organization of report.

D. Instrumentation Paper

Status: Report nearly completed.

Requires: Revision suggested from the CIA review, final editing and typing, or about ten days of work.

E. Organization of Geodesy and Cartography

Status: Manuscript partially drafted

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Requires: Completion from remaining abstract and translations of selected articles. [REDACTED] will complete the paper. [REDACTED] will have to assist in the final assembly and editing of the paper.

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F. Soviet Education in Geodesy

Status: The paper was submitted, but a review indicated insufficient emphasis on the quality and quantity of textbooks, and an appraisal of the qualitative and quantitative aspects of Soviet geodetic training.

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Requires: The appraisals have been assigned to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] will make several minor changes on general education suggested by SI.

G. Annotated Bibliographies in Geodesy Cartography and Photogrammetry

These will be appended in the appropriate papers at the end of the appropriate section or chapters. These will be available for technical level personnel interested in greater detail and will not be treated in the reports themselves except as a part of the intelligence summaries. The one on gravity, considered to be the most important, will have an extended evaluated summary prepared by [REDACTED] and will be issued as a supplement to the first report on "Geodetic Gravimetry in the USSR" issued in 1951.

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Status: These are in advanced stages of preparation.

Requires: Final collation, annotation and typing

H. Revision of the provisional report of 1951 entitled "Geodetic Gravimetry in the USSR".

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[REDACTED] feels strongly about the need to revise the paper on the basis of additional and later data. He, therefore, insists on completing it at the end of the project even though it may require his work after the project's termination.

II. "Part B" technical production

A. Annotated bibliography on cosmic rays, is completed in rough draft except for a foreword to be prepared by [REDACTED] 25X1A

B. Annotated bibliography on Meteorology and Climatology is completed except for a foreword to be prepared by [REDACTED] 25X1A

C. A paper on the Hydrometeorological Service of the USSR has been prepared but requires extensive editing into polished English. The completion of this may be delayed until all other work is done.

D. Annotated bibliography on the Night Sky problem from the aspect of night navigation, ionosphere research, propagation of radio waves, infra-red etc., is essentially completed except for a foreword and final typing. Its completion may be delayed by other priority work until after the termination of the contract. [REDACTED] has promised to complete this on her own time.

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E. Annotated bibliography on transparency and visibility of the atmosphere.  
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This had been partly annotated by [REDACTED] no possibility exists for the completion of the annotation before the closing of the project. The manuscript, in its present form, is organized and needs typing.

### III. Miscellaneous Production and Products

A. Technical Glossary of Russian Geodetic, Cartographic, Photogrammetric and Electronic Terms

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The glossary, consisting of over 2000 terms, was prepared by [REDACTED] A review of electronic terms was made by [REDACTED] a partial review of photogrammetric terms was made by [REDACTED] and of geodetic terms was by [REDACTED] There appears to be little likelihood of the final review of all terms. Whether it should be issued as a provisional edition or not requires further study and thought.

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B. Bibliography Cards

Over 7000 cards have been collected. Four copies of each have been reproduced for CIA Library.

C. Miscellaneous Technical Abstracts

Eighty out of eighty-five have been submitted to CIA Library.

D. Translations

Eighty-seven have been completed. References to these have been given to FDD. The manuscripts are being microfilmed including some that are only in handwritten unedited (for English) form.

E. Cards of Russian scientific and technical institutes, laboratories, universities and technicians.

Seven hundred cards have been assembled and will be turned over to CIA.

F. Biographic cards

7000 cards have been assembled and will be available to Biographics Register.

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*Annex II*

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Reference Materials of Project  
(RD)XG-425 and 1049

1. Bibliography Card File 4X6

Number: about 7,000 entries

Arranged in four subdivisions:

- |                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| a. Subject     | 240 inches |
| b. Author      | 340 inches |
| c. Publication | 96 inches  |
| d. Area        | 96 inches  |

Filed in 4 file cases 14 1/2"x28" X 48", eight drawers each

2. Universities Card File 5X8

Number: 700

Arranged in two subdivisions:

- |                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| a. Alphabetical | 10" |
| b. Subject      | 86" |

Filed in one eight-drawer file case 20"x27"x52". In addition there are over 300 cards (5X8) on Technicums not incorporated into [REDACTED] file.

3. Institute card file 5X8

25X1A

Number: 800

Arranged in two subdivisions

- |                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| a. Alphabetical | 14" |
| b. Subject      | 96" |

Filed in one file case 16"x27"x40"

4. Personnel Card File 4X6

Number: over 7,000

Arranged in three subdivisions:

- |             |      |
|-------------|------|
| Author      | 90"  |
| Subject     | 220" |
| Publication | 140" |

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Filed in two five-drawer file cases 16"x27"x40". In addition 2700 have been typed but not reproduced and incorporated in the Personnel Card File. These 2700 cards are arranged numerically only.

5. Photostated material is collected in 8 file drawers, 12"x12"x27" and on 4 shelves 12"x12"x48".

6. Ozalid master transparencies, (from which the above cards were reproduced) arranged in numerical order, are filed in 5 file cases 4 1/2"x6 1/2"x15".

7. The files of the Laboratory bibliographic research unit in the Library of Congress consists of three basic 4X6 card files: a serial and monograph file, the former arranged alphabetically by serial name, and the monograph cards arranged alphabetically by author. A carbon copy of the master ozalid transparencies are arranged numerically and correlated to a master index number of microfilm reproduction maintained in the [REDACTED] file. The total files of the LC unit consist of 11 4"x6"x24" file boxes. 25X1A

8. The microfilm [REDACTED] is on about 308 35 mm. reels of assorted size.

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